

Colusa Subreach Planning Project Advisory Workgroup
Draft Meeting Summary
November 3, 2004 – Colusa County Farm Bureau

**Summary prepared by Carolyn Penny, Facilitator, Common Ground: Center for
Cooperative Solutions with assistance from Ellen Gentry, Sacramento River
Conservation Area Forum**

Present:

Don Anderson, Burt Bundy, Denny Bungarz, Ben Carter, Woody Elliott, Steve Feazel, Rebecca Fris, Don Garner, Armand Gonzales, Francis Hickle, Ray Krause, Kelly Moroney, Dan Obermeyer, Facilitator Carolyn Penny, Joan Phillipe, Paul Raquel, Jeff Sutton, Project Manager Gregg Werner, Doug White, Jon Wrysinski, and Dawit Zeleke. Staff: Michelle Baker (Common Ground) and Ellen Gentry (SRCAF).

Agenda:

12:00 p.m.	Lunch
12:20 p.m.	Welcome and brief self-introductions of all participants <i>Carolyn Penny, facilitator</i>
12:45 p.m.	Welcoming remarks from the Sacramento Region Conservation Area Forum (SRCAF) and The Nature Conservancy (TNC) <i>Ben Carter (SRCAF) and Dawit Zeleke (TNC)</i>
1:00 p.m.	Overview of Colusa Subreach Planning Project Advisory Workgroup Role Description Public Engagement Plan <i>Burt Bundy (SRCAF) and Gregg Werner (TNC)</i>
1:45 p.m.	Discuss and agree on ground rules for operation of the Workgroup Discuss and agree on mission statement for the Workgroup Discuss and agree on meeting topics and schedule
2:45 p.m.	Public Comment
3:00 p.m.	Break
3:15 p.m.	Discuss the roles, perspectives, and skills each team member brings to the dialogue Explore definitions of “success”
3:45 p.m.	Overview of the River and the Project Area Questions and answers <i>Burt Bundy and Gregg Werner</i>
4:30 p.m.	Identify background information available for all Identify information gaps that could be filled for the next meeting Plan for the next meeting
4:45 p.m.	Next steps Wrap up and summary
5:00 p.m.	Adjourn

Welcome and Brief Self-Introductions

Each person stated one word to describe a successful AW experience as part of self-introductions:

- Balanced
- Public-Input
- Listening
- Consensus
- Results
- Biological
- Communication
- Finally
- Understanding
- Trust
- Openness
- Long term
- Working Relationships
- Participation
- Collaboration
- Dynamic
- Compromise
- Helpful
- Interests/Concerns
- Habitat
- Future-Generations

Overview of Colusa Subreach Planning Project

After a welcome by Ben Carter of SRCAF and Dawit Zeleke of TNC, Gregg Werner and Burt Bundy gave an overview of the Colusa Subreach Planning Project.

Gregg Werner gave an overview describing the CALFED-funded collaborative effort among landowners, other local interests and resources agencies to develop a conservation strategy along the twenty-one mile stretch between river miles 143.5 and 164.5) of the Sacramento River from Princeton to Colusa. He pointed out the public/conservation ownerships and described the specific restoration planning that would be completed on those.

Advisory Workgroup Role Description - Burt Bundy, SRCAF, reviewed the background of the SRCAF and the Sacramento River and its four distinct reaches: (Red Bluff to Chico, Chico to Hamilton City, Hamilton City to Colusa, and Colusa to Verona). The SRCAF will partner with TNC to manage the public outreach/education effort and provide staff services to help support the project pursuant to a subcontract to TNC.

Public Engagement Plan - Gregg Werner, TNC, covered the process that will provide stakeholders with the opportunity to become informed about the Colusa Subreach Planning Project and to participate in the planning process. TNC is responsible to the California Bay-Delta Authority for the completion of all Project tasks.

The AW asked questions and gave individual input on the following points:

Modeling

- Keep in mind studies/modeling are in the works from other groups
- Integrate at larger scale than individual properties
- AW wants to give input to shape modeling and other studies
- At the AW December meeting, clarify opportunities to shape modeling and assessment studies

AW Membership

- Colusa Board of Supervisors will be appointing person for the Colusa public interest seat for SRCAF and AW. Expected in January.
- Desire to keep Doug's involvement.

Ground Rules, Mission Statement, and Meeting Topics/Schedule

Mission Statement

After discussion, the AW agreed on the following mission statement for the AW:

To cooperatively determine practical strategies for conservation and restoration of wildlife habitat within the Colusa Subreach that minimize adverse economic impacts, are compatible with agriculture and local community needs, integrate with recreation needs and protect the integrity of the flood control system.

Meeting Schedule

The AW agreed to meet December 6, 2004 at the Colusa County Farm Bureau, 12-3 p.m. and the first Monday of every month through April, 2004 from 12-3 p.m. Locations of meetings after December will be arranged by SRCAF and announced to the AW.

Ground Rules

The group reviewed the proposed ground rules and made the following suggestions and changes. Please see attached revised ground rules incorporating these changes.

- Objectives: Provide input on ways all involved interests can be better neighbors. Include statement about balancing all needs. Jeff will suggest language for review in December.

- Participation: Alternates are welcome to attend AW meetings. Will participate actively only when member is not present. Primary members are responsible for passing on materials other than agendas to alternates. Agendas will be distributed by SRCAF and TNC to primary members and alternates by email. Members can also receive materials by regular mail by request.
- Decision-Making: Change number of members required to be present from $\frac{3}{4}$ to $\frac{2}{3}$.
- Modification: A final ground rule will be added that states that the AW can revisit and modify the ground rules as its work unfolds.
- Carolyn will send out the revised ground rules before the December meeting.

Public Comment

There was no public comment offered.

Roles, Perspectives, Skills, Success

This agenda item was tabled until the December meeting for time management purposes.

Overview of the River and Project Area

Gregg Werner gave an subreach overview including land use and land ownership breakdowns.

Land use breakdown: Agriculture (orchards, row crops) 2367 acres 43%; Other open areas 23 acres 4%; Riparian habitat 3031 acres 55%; Flood control 25 acres 5%; Water supply 5 acres 1%; Recreation 14 acres 3%; Residential 1 acre 1%; Totaling 5466 acres.

Land ownership breakdown: Private 3884 acres 71% includes agriculture, habitat, and other; Private conservation 369 acres 7% includes agriculture and habitat; Public 1213 acres 22% includes habitat and other; Totaling 5466 acres.

Burt Bundy gave an overview regarding flood control within the FEMA 100 year floodplain. The Sacramento River Flood Control Project begins north of the Ord Ferry Bridge at the flood relief structures where flood flows overflow into the Butte Basin, then the Sutter and Yolo bypasses. The Project includes five major weirs and 1300 miles of levees that protect 800,000 acres of agricultural land and several cities, including Colusa and Sacramento. Flood control storage at Shasta Lake is also a key component of the flood control system. The Colusa Subreach includes both the Moulton and Colusa Weirs.

Background Information and Information Gaps

Background Information - Gregg Werner volunteered to create a bibliography including abstracts which will be made available to the workgroup. Burt Bundy will distribute a list of PILT (Payment In Lieu of Taxes) recommendations from a joint committee of the

SRCAF and CALFED Working Landscapes. The following current available resources were given for those who were interested:

www.sacramentoriver.ca.gov - SRCAF website

www.sacramentoriverportal.org – includes subreach plans. Let Gregg know if you want a hard copy or CD.

www.sacramentoriver.org – lots of recreation and GIS information

www.sacramentovalleyrefuges.gov – USFWS Management Plan; future presentation

There will also be a future presentation on the California Department of Fish and Game Management Plan. Other resources mentioned were the TNC Public Recreation Access Study and the Butte Basin Flood Control Study. Identified information gaps included whether river channel capacities have reduced over time and how to regain capacity.

Next Steps and Interim Actions

- **Burt** will distribute materials regarding payment in lieu of taxes from SRCAF with the meeting materials **a week in advance of the December meeting**.
- **Jeff** will work on broader amended language for AW goal and objectives. He will send the material to **Ellen** by email by **10 days before meeting** so she can distribute the information with the meeting materials.
- **Burt and Ellen** will find locations for meetings starting in January. They will inform AW members **by next meeting**. Location preferences are: 1) Farm Bureau, 2) Colusa Industrial Park, 3) City Hall
- **Gregg** will create bibliography with abstracts, a refined work flow schedule including modeling and other studies. He will distribute materials approximately **one week before the December meeting** with agenda by email to everyone on the AW and direct mail to the people who have requested.
- **Dawit** will bring mandarins to the **December meeting**.
- **December agenda items** – workflow including modeling and assessment studies; AW skills, roles and interests; draft of landowner survey; finalize ground rules; AW scope of work

Next Meeting – December 6, 2004 at 12pm – 3pm – Colusa Farm Bureau